

CLAIM:

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1. A multifunction air knife, comprising:

a manifold connected to an air supply source, wherein said manifold defines an outlet for providing a directed stream of air from said manifold;

an air source control to vary an air pressure supplied to the manifold in response to a predetermined condition.

2. An air knife according to claim 1, wherein said air source control varies the

air pressure between two distinct states, a first state being a relatively high pressure and a second state being a lower pressure.

3. An air knife according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined condition is determined based upon the weight of a sheet.

4. A device for fusing a toner image to a sheet comprising:

a heated fusing roll;

a pressure roll in circumferential contact with said heated fusing roll to form a nip therebetween;

a manifold, adjacent said the nip formed by said heated fusing roll and said pressure roll, said manifold connected to an air supply source, wherein said manifold defines an outlet for providing a directed stream of air from said manifold;

an air source control to vary an air pressure supplied to the manifold in response to a predetermined condition.

5. An electrophotographic printing machine having a fusing apparatus, comprising:

a print engine for forming and depositing a toner image on a substrate;

a heated fusing roll;

a pressure roll in circumferential contact with said heated fusing roll to form a nip therebetween;

a manifold, adjacent said the nip formed by said heated fusing roll and said pressure roll, said manifold connected to an air supply source, wherein said manifold defines an outlet for providing a directed stream of air from said manifold;

an air source control to vary an air pressure supplied to the manifold in response to a predetermined condition.

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